GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:806
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2007
IRRIGATION POTENTIAL
Patil Shri Shriniwas Dadasaheb

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the target and achievement of irrigation potential created so far and likely to be created during the remaining period of the Tenth Five Year Plan in hectares, State-wise;

(b) whether there is imbalance in creation of irrigation potential amongst various States; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government for equitable creation of irrigation potential throughout the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) A target of creation of 16.74 million hectare of irrigation potential was set for the Tenth Five Year Plan. State-wise targets are given in the Annex. The target was revised to 10.5 million hectare at the time of Mid Term Appraisal of Tenth Five Year Plan. The State-wise irrigation potential created up to March 2006 is also given in the Annex. The total irrigation potential created in first four years of the Tenth Plan is about 7.02 million hectare leaving a balance of 3.48 million hectare out of the revised target.

(b) & (c) The created irrigation potential as percent of the ultimate irrigation potential varies from State to state. Irrigation being a State subject, irrigation projects are conceived, planned and implemented by the State Governments as per their own priority. The Government of India provides central assistance to the State Governments for completion of on-going irrigation projects under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP). The AIBP criteria have been relaxed and procedures simplified to cover more projects under this Programme. A pilot scheme titled `National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture` has also been approved by Government of India in January 2005.